
Request to Declare the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club Facility as a Municipal Project

Recommendation

That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services recommend to City Council:

1. That the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club facility be approved as a municipal project; and
2. That the Corporate Revenue Division, Asset and Financial Management Department, be authorized and requested to accept donations for this project and issue appropriate receipts to donors who contribute funds to the project.

Topic and Purpose

The Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club is interested in developing a fundraising campaign to support continued programming and the club's long-term plan for capital improvements and upgrades to the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club facility. In order to help encourage donations by being able to provide charitable donation receipts for various donations, the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club is requesting the City of Saskatoon declare the facility as a municipal project. This fundraising campaign will support additional programming and needed upgrades to the current facility's amenities and for capital infrastructure. The facility is currently owned by the City of Saskatoon, and located on City-owned property, which meets the conditions required to be declared a municipal project. The Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club operates and maintains the facility through a long-term lease agreement.

Report Highlights

1. To help fund programming and capital improvements, the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club (Club) will be fundraising and seeking private donations. The Club leases the facility from the City of Saskatoon (City) and is responsible for all operations and capital improvements.
2. The Club is requesting to have the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club facility be approved as a municipal project.

Strategic Goal

Under the City's Strategic Goal of Quality of Life, this report supports the long-term strategy of ensuring recreation facilities are sustainable and accessible, both physically and financially, and meet community needs.

Background

The Club is a registered non-profit organization that has operated within the City-owned facility, located in Victoria Park, since 1967. Currently, the Club has a lease with the City until December 31, 2027, with options to renew for two additional ten-year terms upon mutual agreement between the Club and the City.

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The Club provides programming and facility rentals that support skills development and maintaining an active, healthy lifestyle for all ages. The Club offers tennis and badminton to the community at an affordable price, with pickleball being the most recent addition. The Club offers leagues, mixers, and lessons for all ages, as well as a lounge section in the facility. The facility is comprised of nine outdoor tennis courts, with some serving dual use as pickleball courts, as well as six indoor badminton courts. The Club also provides programs that focus on the communities near the facility to enable low-income youth and adults the opportunity to participate in and benefit from active recreation and social interaction.

This project is similar to others approved as municipal projects by City Council over the past several years. Such projects include:

- a) installation of new and/or upgraded play structures in a number of parks;
- b) the lighting project in Sidney L. Buckwold Park;
- c) approval of the Albert Recreation unit playground;
- d) approval of outdoor fitness equipment in W.J.L. Harvey North Park; and
- e) installation of a reflexology walking circle and games table in Raoul Wallenberg Park.

Report

Financial Support

A letter from the President of the Club indicates the organization's request to receive municipal project designation to strengthen the Club's ability to raise funds through private donations to support programming and capital improvements (see Attachment 1). The Administration is recommending that the Corporate Revenue Division be authorized and requested to accept donations and issue receipts to donors who contribute funds to this project.

The Administration supports the Club in its efforts to raise the required funds to support programming and capital improvements to the facility. The Club leases the facility from the City and is responsible for all costs of programming, operations, and capital improvements.

Approval as a Municipal Project

Sections 110 and 118 of *The Income Tax Act* provide for the same tax receipts to be issued for gifts to a municipality as for gifts to registered charities. In accepting donations where a receipt is to be issued for tax purposes, it is most important to keep in mind the following Revenue Canada definition:

“A gift for which an official donation receipt may be issued can be defined as a voluntary transfer of property without consideration. There must be a donor who freely disposes of the property and there must be a donee who receives the property given. In other words, the transfer must be freely made and no right, privilege, material benefit, or advantage may be conferred on the donor or on the person designated as the donee as a consequence of the gift.”

In order for donors to claim their contribution under *The Income Tax Act*, the Club is requesting that City Council declare the Riverside Badminton and Tennis Club facility as a

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municipal project and authorize the Corporate Revenue Division to accept donations and issue appropriate receipts.

Options to the Recommendation

City Council could choose to deny the request to have this project declared as a municipal project. This may impact the ability of the Club to raise the required funds to continue operations and fund capital infrastructure improvements required for the long-term sustainability of the facility.

Public and/or Stakeholder Involvement

The Club has received feedback from patrons and user groups on desired improvements to programs and the facility. Civic staff, including the Recreation and Community Development and Facilities and Fleet Management Divisions, will be involved in providing guidance and technical advice in the development of Club's long-term capital infrastructure plan, as well as assisting with the development of a preventative maintenance plan.

Communication Plan

Information updates on the Club's fundraising progress, programming, and future capital improvements will be provided to users through the Club's website and other means of communication.

Safety/Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Any capital improvements or alterations to the facility require approval from the City and, if required, will undergo a CPTED review.

Other Considerations/Implications

There are no policy, financial, environmental, or privacy implications or considerations.

Due Date for Follow-up and/or Project Completion

No follow up reporting is required.

Public Notice

Public notice, pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

Attachments

1. Letter from the Riverside Tennis and Badminton Club President

Report Approval

Written by: Andrew Roberts, Special Use Facilities and Capital Planning Manager,
Recreation and Community Development

Reviewed by: Lynne Lacroix, Director of Recreation and Community Development

Approved by: Randy Grauer, General Manager Community Services Department

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